liberalisation, greater involvement of our missions abroad, invitation to foreign delegations including service chiefs, participation in defence exhibitions, use of marketing skills and infrastructure of trading houses, and publication of a catalogue of defence equipment.

(b) The products sold in the country include arms, ammunition and stores to police forces, aircraft and spare parts, electronic components and communications equipment, broadcasting equipment, earthmoving equipment, offshore installations etc. The value of sales in the domestic market and of exports has been as under:

	Value of domestic sale	Value of exports (including deemed export)
		(Rs. in crores)
1992-93	4770.02	261.31
1993-94	4984.11	558.03
1994-95 (provisional)	5762.90	545.87

(c) Exports have generally been of ammunition to countries in South East Asia, communications equipment and aviation items to countries in Africa, the Middle East and South America and offset jobs and components to manufacturers in developed countries.

(d) Ordnance Factory Board has recently decided to sell the Jonga Vehicle also in the civil market. The response has been extremely encouraging. Finalisation of dealers is in hand. The vehicle is expected to be launched for sale in the second half of this year.

Death of army officials due to mine blast in Uri, Kashmir

6345. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an army Brigadier and 9 other ranks were killed in two mine blasts outside the border town of Uri in Kahsmir;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Govenment to avoid such blasts in future;

(c) whether Government will provide financial assistance to the kith and kin of those killed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) On 20 Mar. 95, there were two blasts of Improvised Explosion Devices (IED) on a road near the Line of Control (LC) in Uri sector of Jammu and Kashmir. As a result of these blasts, one Brigadier and two civilians were killed and two Army Officers, five Army Other Ranks and one BSF Assistant Commandant were injured.

(b) Standing Operating Procedures and special drills have been laid down to minimise casualties to personnel operating in counter militancy/insurgency environment. These are being followed.

(c) and (d) Casualties occurring during counter militancy/insurgency operations are treated as battle casualties and the victims/next of kins are entitled to liberalised pensionary awards as also some other benefits declared by the Government of India including benefit of compassionate employment at par with war casualties. In addition, the State Government of J&K also pays an ex-gratia amount to the next of kins of personnel killed during the operations against millitants.

Joint exercises held by Indian Navy

6346. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: